

## Message Text

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17  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

OMB-01 SAM-01 DHA-02 ACDA-07 /080 W  
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P R 170933Z AUG 76  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8899  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6381

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, KS  
SUBJECT: EX-PRESIDENT YUN PO-SUN GIVES INDEPENDENCE DAY PRESS  
CONFERENCE

REF: SEOUL 6214

1. EX-PRESIDENT AND MYONGDONG TRIAL DEFENDANT YUN PO-SUN GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE AT HIS HOME AUGUST 13. CONFERENCE CALLED AT REQUEST OF SEVERAL JAPANESE NEWSPAPERS AND WAS ATTENDED BY HALF DOZEN JAPANESE REPORTERS AND LOCAL UPI REPORTER.
  2. YUN READ FROM PREPARED TEXT REVIEWING MYONGDONG TRIAL, STATE OF DEMOCRACY IN KOREA AND YUN'S REACTION TO 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE. YUN REPEATED BELIEF HE WAS INNOCENT OF CHARGES MADE AT TRIAL AND PRAISED KIM DAE-JUNG FOR HIS STRENGTH AND COURAGE.
  3. AFTER PREPARED STATEMENT YUN OFFERED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON THE RECORD ON ANY SUBJECT. ACCORDING ONE REPORTER WHO WAS PRESENT IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON U.S. ROLE IN KOREA, HE LAUNCHED INTO LENGTHY AND HIGHLY CRITICAL REVIEW OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR PAK GOVERNMENT AND ARGUED THAT U.S. HAS MORAL IMPERATIVE TO TAKE ACTION TO SAFEGUARD DEMOCRACY
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IN KOREA. YUN HAD MADE SIMILAR REMARKS TO UPI'S CRABBE

EARLIER THIS YEAR; AT THAT TIME THOUGH, HE PUT REMARKS  
OFF THE RECORD.

4. GIVING CONFERENCE JAPANESE SLANT, KYODO NEWS AGENCY  
REPORTED AUGUST 14 THAT YUN CALLED ON THE PAK GOVERNMENT  
TO LIQUIDATE ITS "NON-DEMOCRATIC" POLITICAL SYSTEM AND  
ASKED THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO STOP PATRONIZING KOREA  
IN "CLOSED CHAMBER POLITICS". ACCORDING KYODO  
YUN ALSO PROPOSED THREE-NATION CONFERENCE OF  
SOUTH KOREA, JAPAN, AND U.S. TO DISCUSS KOREAN PEACE AND  
SECURITY.

5. STATEMENT GIVEN NO KOREAN PRESS PLAY OTHER THAN REPORTED  
COVERAGE IN LOCAL EDITION STARS AND STRIPES.

6. COMMENT: THERE WAS LAST DITCH, CRI DE COEUR QUALITY TO YUN'S  
REMARKS - ACCORDING TO ONE REPORTER PRESENT HE COMMENTED THAT  
HE WAS OLD MAN AND THIS WAS LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT THAT HE  
WANTED TO GET ON THE RECORD IN THE EVENT HE WENT TO JAIL OR  
WAS PUT UNDER HOUSE ARREST.  
STATEMENT LIABLE TO HARDEN VIEW IN MANY QUARTERS WITHIN  
ROK THAT ITS LAST REMAINING RECALCITRANT OPPONENTS  
MUST SOMEHOW BE SILENCED. WE STILL EXPECT, HOWEVER,  
THAT GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO MOVE CIRCUMSPECTLY IN  
ITS HANDLING OF YUN AND OTHERS WITH AN EYE TOWARD  
PUBLIC OPINION AT HOME AND MORE PARTICULARLY ABROAD.  
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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINT, KS, JA, (YUN PO-SUN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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